

Message Text

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63

ACTION ORM-03

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INFO AMEMBASSY MADRID

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SREF

SUBJECT: CUBAN REFUGEES IN SPAIN

REF: STATE 080402

1. UNHCR REPORTS APPROXIMATELY 25,000 CUBAN REFUGEES PRESENTLY IN SPAIN, WITH ARRIVALS DURING FIRST QUARTER 1973 AVERAGING 96 PERSONS PER MONTH AND VISAS ISSUED SAME PERIOD AVERAGING 763 PER MONTH. STATISTICS FOR APRIL NOT EXPECTED BE AVAILABLE TO UNHCR FOR SEVERAL DAYS.
2. ALTHOUGH VISAS ISSUED AVERAGED ONLY 763 PER MONTH, OVER 1,000 ISSUED IN MARCH (AND PRESUMABLY APRIL). EXTRAPOLATING FROM 25,000 CUBANS PRESENTLY IN SPAIN, CURRENT MONTHLY ARRIVAL RATE OF 96, AND CURRENT VISA ISSUANCE OF 1,039 PER MONTH, UNHCR BELIEVES APPROXIMATELY 26 MONTHS REQUIRED TO RESOLVE PROBLEM THROUGH EMIGRATION AT CURRENT RATE.
3. BELOW ARE UNHCR STATISTICS:

VISAS ISSUED

ARRIVALS 1973	USA	OTHER COUNTRIES
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JANUARY	111	560	35
FEBRUARY	76	588	68
MARCH	102	1,007	32
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	289	2,155	135

4. ICEM REPORTS 25,910 CUBAN REFUGEES IN SPAIN. 23,000 ACTIVELY SEEKING RESETTLEMENT; 22,000 DESIRE U. S.

5. FOLLOWING ARRIVALS FROM CUBA REPORTED IN 1973: JANUARY 101, FEBRUARY 76, MARCH 139, APRIL 86, TOTAL 402.

6. RESETTLEMENT DEPARTURES EFFECTED IN 1973 BY ICEM: JANUARY 556, FEBRUARY 608, MARCH 851, APRIL 982, TOTAL 2,997, OF WHOM 2,949 TO USA.

7. FOLLOWING IN RESETTLEMENT PROCESSING: AUSTRALIA 27 APPROVED AND 127 PENDING APPROVAL OR SELECTION INTERVIEWS. LATIN AMERICA 39 APPROVED, 70 PENDING ACCEPTANCE OR PLACEMENT. FIGURES FOR US ALREADY REPORTED BY AMCONSUL.

8. NEW ARRIVALS EXPECTED CONTINUE DECLINE, BARRING CHANGE IN MAY 31, 1970 CUT- OFF OF APPLICATIONS FOR EXIT PERMITS. IF US CONTINUES 1,000 PER MONTH ACCEPTANCE, ICEM BELIEVES RESETTLEMENT WILL BE ACHIEVED BY ALL WHO DESIRE IT BY APPROXIMATELY MARCH 1976. PARENTHETICALLY, ICEM RECORDS SHOW 11,700 PERSONS DESIRING US RESETTLEMENT HAVE CLOSE RELATIVES IN US. BASSIN

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